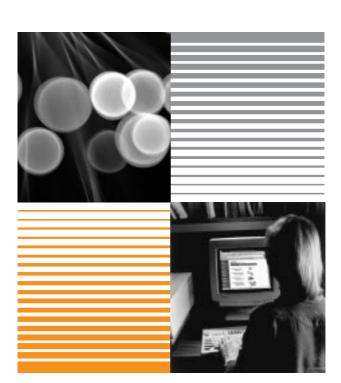
United States Environmental Protection Agency EPA 530-F-98-022 September 1998 www.epa.gov/osw

Solid Waste and Emergency Response (5305W)

SEPA RCRA ONLINE

A Quick Reference Guide



WHAT IS RCRA ONLINE?

RCRA Online is an electronic database of selected letters, memoranda, and questions and answers written by the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Solid Waste since 1980. These documents cover the management of nonhazardous, hazardous, and medical waste regulated by the Resource Conversation and Recovery Act (RCRA). Regular updates are planned.

HOW DO I ACCESS IT?

RCRA Online can be accessed using Netscape Navigator 2.1 or Microsoft's Internet Explorer 3.0. Simply run the browser and connect to RCRA Online directly by entering the URL:

http://www.epa.gov/rcraonline

The first page is the Welcome Page. Click on "Continue" to display the RCRA Online Menu. From the Menu you can navigate to one of the three different Search screens to begin your document search.

RCRA Online provides users with the capability to view and print the actual text of the documents identified in a search.

HOW DO I SEARCH TOPICS?

RCRA Online allows users to locate documents though topical, full, and advanced search functions. Using the topic search function is the simplest way to locate documents in the database.

The topics cover a wide range of RCRA subjects. To search the database by topic, choose the topic search icon on the tool bar.



Click on the blue arrow next to the desired topic. To view detailed information on a particular document, simply click on the document title.



Helpful Hint

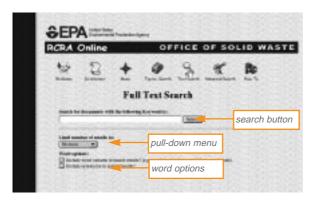
To search for a word using only the first few characters of the word, use the * (asterisk) as a wild card (e.g., if searching for battery or batteries type "batt*").

HOW DO I SEARCH FULL TEXT?

Type the keyword or keywords into the search field, separating each word with a space (e.g., "battery lead plate"). To search for a string of words in a particular order, or to search for exact phrases, group the words within quotation marks (e.g., "solid waste").

You can limit the number of documents the database will find by using the pull down menu and choosing the desired limit.

The full text search also gives you the option to search for word variants (e.g., "battery" will show references to "battery" and "batteries") and for synonyms or related words (e.g., the word "gas" will also show the words "vapor," "fumes," and "helium.")



To perform the search, click on the "Search" button adjacent to the keyword field. The database will display a list of all the documents that meet the search parameters. To view detailed information on a particular document, simply click on the document title.

HOW DO I USE ADVANCED SEARCH?

Using the advanced search function allows you to search the database using specific criteria. You may locate documents by date, author, recipient, title, regulatory part and subpart, regulatory section, statutory citation, fax-on-demand code, RCRA Permit Policy Compendium (RPPC) number, National Technical Information Service (NTIS) number, or EPA Document Number.



The advanced search also allows searches by keyword or keywords. When using the keyword field, the advanced search provides the option to search for word variants and for word synonyms. The database will display a list of all the documents that meet the search parameters. To view detailed information on a particular document, simply click on the document title.

HOW CAN I GET ADDITIONAL HELP FINDING DOCUMENTS CONTAINED IN RCRA ONLINE?

For more information, call the RCRA Hotline at (800) 424-9346 or 703-412-9810 (from the Washington, DC area). The Hotline is open Monday though Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. eastern time.

WHERE CAN I DIRECT SUGGESTIONS AND PROBLEMS?

Please direct technical problems about RCRA Online to the RCRA Online Administrators.

Simply click, "RCRA Online Administrators" at the bottom of the page under "How To Use."